

S/N 09/464,158PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Erling Sundrehagen

Examiner: Ja-Na Hines

Serial No.: 09/464,158

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: December 16, 1999

Docket: 697.011US1

Title: ASSAY FOR CARBOHYDRATE-FREE TRANSFERRIN

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on March 23, 2001. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a three-month extension of the period for responding to the Office action, thereby moving the deadline for response from June 23, 2001 to September 24, 2001 (a Monday).

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please make the paragraph substitutions indicated in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Amended Specification Paragraphs. The specific changes incorporated in the substitute paragraphs are shown in the following marked-up versions of the original paragraphs:

The paragraph beginning at page 13, line 35, is amended as follows:

The carbohydrate-binding ligands may be [immobilised] immobilized by binding or coupling to any of the well known solid supports or matrices which are currently widely used or proposed for [immobilisation] immobilization or separation etc. These may take the form of particles, sheets, gels, filters, membranes, fibres or capillaries or microtitre strips, tubes or plates or wells etc and conveniently may be made of glass, silica, latex or a polymeric material.

Techniques for binding the ligand to the solid support are also extremely well known and widely described in the literature. For example, the carbohydrate-binding ligands used may conveniently be coupled covalently to CNBr-activated [Sepharose] SEPHAROSE or N-hydroxysuccinimide activated supports, optionally in the presence of low molecular weight haptens to protect the carbohydrate binding sites on the ligand. Other coupling methods for proteins are also well known in the art.